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LB 602

SENATOR WARNER: That would have been a total \$663,000.

SENATOR BARRETT: All right, that answers my question. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Senator Warner, I would like to get a bit of historical perspective on this deficiency appropriation, if you might yield for a couple of questions.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Senator Warner, is this the largest deficiency bill that you have had since you have been here?

SENATOR WARNER: The largest?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, \$9 million.

SENATOR WARNER: I sort of doubt it. I do not recall specifically but I believe we had one larger. I can recall when we had both special ed and substantial property tax, one about five years ago or six.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I think the thing I find interesting about the deficiency appropriation this year is the fact that we spent so much time last year in special session cutting back appropriations and yet we come back this year putting nine million dollars back in the budget that we whittled away at, six and a half million of which is special ed funding. It would seem as though the work we did in the special session to cut back on appropriations is easily undermined through a deficiency appropriation, would that be correct?

SENATOR WARNER: Well, not totally, because you know much of this in here is a transfer of...or some of it is a transfer between agencies, and, of course, in the case of special ed that is by law a reimbursement after the fact appropriation. Now it is true that last year we actually reduced during the regular session, we reduced by \$1 million the amount of appropriation for '82-'83 below what had been appropriated for '81-'82 on the assumption that some reduction might be brought about through rules and regulations in the Department of Education. That attempt I do not believe was too successful and so, in essence, we picked up that million as well as the additional cost that naturally has been occurring...increased cost in this area in any event.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Do you think it really is possible for